

1 COMMONWEALTH TRANSPORTATION BOARD

2

3 SIX-YEAR PLAN

4

5 PUBLIC HEARING

6

7 MAY 19, 2010

7

8 6:00 P.M.

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11 VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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12 1221 EAST BROAD STREET

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13 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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24 Job No. 12572

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25 REPORTED BY: Rhonda D. Tuck, RPR, CRR

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1 (May 19, 2010)

2  
3 MR. WHIRLEY: Good afternoon. Welcome  
4 to our public hearing on the six-year program,  
5 the six-year program for FY11 through 2016.

6 I'd just like to share with you a few  
7 things that was presented to the Commonwealth  
8 Transportation Board this morning -- or this  
9 afternoon.

10 Our proposed 2011 through 2016 program,  
11 the total is about 7.7 billion, which compares  
12 to the revised program of FY10 through 15 was  
13 about 7.6 billion. So revenue didn't really  
14 grow. Our budget is about the same for the  
15 upcoming program.

16 There are a few principles that we used  
17 to try and develop the draft program, and  
18 that's just a few points. One, to fund the  
19 deficits that are underway with project  
20 phases; and Number 2, maximize use of federal  
21 funds to meet a federal strategy; and three,  
22 fund underway project phases as well as  
23 project phases that start in FY11, and to fund  
24 deficient bridges and paving projects.

25 What I'd like to do at this point is

1           introduce our board member, Mr. McCarthy, from  
2           Richmond.

3                   MR. MCCARTHY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
4           and welcome to all the Richmond District,  
5           those of you, especially, who have traveled  
6           from afar. We're glad to have you here for  
7           this public hearing.

8                   We have other colleagues here who are  
9           from the other districts and at-large members.

10                   Mr. Carter is from -- are you from  
11           Fredericksburg?

12                   MR. CARTER: Yes, sir.

13                   MR. MCCARTHY: And my good friend Butch  
14           Davies over here is from the Culpeper  
15           District.

16                   And Mr. Cord Sterling is urban-at-large  
17           member, and then we have our district  
18           administrators here, as well, from the  
19           districts. So everybody you need to meet is  
20           here tonight.

21                   Unfortunately, there's really not a  
22           whole lot new since the plan was adopted in  
23           December. So if you know that plan by heart,  
24           you pretty well know what we have for you  
25           tonight, but nonetheless, we want to hear what

1           you think about it, so we thank you for being  
2           here.

3                     Butch, did you want to say anything?

4                     MR. DAVIES:  Nope.  You've said it all.

5                     MR. MCCARTHY:  Cord?

6                     MR. STERLING:  Just one other thing.

7           You touched on this somewhat, the six-year  
8           plan in terms of the individual projects.

9                     There are a couple of things where --  
10          we'll call them pools of money that have been  
11          reserved for bridge replacement, deficient  
12          bridges, and then looked at identifying them  
13          over the course of the year, but that is 2016,  
14          so obviously that's out in the future, as well  
15          as paving.

16                    So we're sort of holding some funds  
17          within the account to identify and apply  
18          towards the greatest needs across the  
19          Commonwealth.  So if you've got bridges or  
20          roads that are in that category, on the  
21          interstate, I think you should make those  
22          points very clear.

23                    MR. WHIRLEY:  Okay.  Why don't we get  
24          started.  We normally would limit the speakers  
25          to about three minutes.  I don't -- I only

1 have at this point about seven speakers, so I  
2 won't hold to that rule as tightly, but our  
3 normal process is to allow about three  
4 minutes.

5 I'd like to ask -- Mr. Ned Henson would  
6 like to speak. Are you here? Good afternoon,  
7 Mr. Henson.

8 MR. HENSON: Good afternoon. Yes, sir.  
9 Acting Commissioner Whirley, Mr. McCarthy,  
10 members of Commonwealth Transportation Board,  
11 ladies and gentlemen, good evening. I'm Ned  
12 Henson with the Ashland Town Council and  
13 chairman elect of the Richmond Area MPO.

14 Thank you for providing us this  
15 opportunity to provide our input for your  
16 consideration in allocating state and federal  
17 transportation funds for projects and programs  
18 in the upcoming six-year improvement program.

19 The MPO took action at its November  
20 12th, 2009, meeting to establish its list of  
21 regional priority projects, and we are  
22 submitting this list for your consideration.

23 The MPO's Number 1 priority remains the  
24 preservation of funds for those MPO priority  
25 projects that have been identified in the

1 previous VDOT six-year improvement programs to  
2 be fully funded.

3           These important regional priority  
4 projects are as follows: Main Street Station,  
5 Phase 3; Route 360, widening, Hanover County;  
6 Huguenot Bridge, reconstruction; Route 250,  
7 widening, Goochland County; I-64, widening in  
8 Henrico and Goochland Counties near Route 288;  
9 and the Virginia Capital Trail in Charles City  
10 and Henrico Counties and the City of Richmond.

11           These projects have been regional  
12 priorities for many years and our citizens are  
13 waiting patiently for the projects to be  
14 completed. We do appreciate the efforts and  
15 commitments you've made to move these projects  
16 forward, which is no small feat in these tough  
17 economic times.

18           We're also pleased to see that progress  
19 is being made on other MPO projects, which  
20 include Route 10 widening between I-95 and  
21 I-295 in Chesterfield County, I-95/Lewistown  
22 Road interchange improvements in Hanover  
23 County, Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit  
24 projects in the City of Richmond and Henrico  
25 County from Willow Lawn to Rockwood plan,

1 I-295 Roseville Road interchange in  
2 Chesterfield County, Forest Hill Avenue  
3 widening in the City of Richmond, and Jahnke  
4 Road widening in the City of Richmond.

5 Please note that the MPO's Number 2  
6 priority project is the improvement of  
7 high-speed rail in the I-95 Richmond to  
8 Washington, D.C., corridor. We urge the CTB  
9 to take prompt action to improve high-speed  
10 rail service through the active yard, which is  
11 a major bottleneck to passenger rail traffic  
12 along the East Coast and is a vital link for  
13 the southeast high-speed rail corridor and the  
14 northeast corridor.

15 Tonight, we're also submitting for your  
16 consideration the MPO's list of recommended  
17 allocations of Regional Surface Transportation  
18 Program and Congestion Mitigation and Air  
19 Quality funds for 35 projects and programs.

20 The MPO's list includes not just  
21 highway projects but also includes two trail  
22 projects, replacement of alternative fuel bus  
23 projects, continuing support for the region's  
24 ride sharing and travel demand management  
25 program and continuing support for the James

1 River Marine Highway project providing freight  
2 barge service between the Port of Richmond and  
3 the marine terminals in Hampton Roads.

4 Finally, tonight, we'd like to bring to  
5 your attention the MPO's support of the  
6 Virginia State Police campaign for public  
7 awareness of the move-over law. Simply  
8 stated, in passing emergency personnel and  
9 vehicles on the side of the road, the  
10 move-over law requires drivers to change to  
11 another travel lane, or if unable to, to slow  
12 down and cautiously pass another person on the  
13 side of the road.

14 Every year, thousands of law  
15 enforcement officers are injured or killed by  
16 passing vehicles on our nation's highways.  
17 According to statistics from the National Law  
18 Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, between  
19 1999 and 2008, there were 154 fatalities for  
20 officers struck by vehicles.

21 Further, according to a recent national  
22 poll by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, 71  
23 percent of Americans have not heard of  
24 move-over laws and 86 percent support enacting  
25 move-over laws in all 50 states.

1           Increasing public awareness of  
2           move-over laws which involve public support is  
3           important not only to State Police but to all  
4           emergency rescue personnel, tow truck drivers,  
5           a lot of workers and others providing roadside  
6           assistance.

7           One small measure VDOT can do in this  
8           effort is to provide move-over signs along our  
9           region's busy interstate highways, especially  
10          along those roads designated as highway safety  
11          corridors where there's an increasing police  
12          presence and exposure.

13          We're not aware of a single move-over  
14          sign in our region, and we've heard that there  
15          are only 14 such signs in the entire state.  
16          The MPO Citizens Transportation Advisory  
17          Committee brought this matter to our  
18          attention, citing a lack of public awareness  
19          of the move-over law. We hope you will join  
20          us in doing what we can to raise public  
21          awareness of the move-over law.

22          With me tonight is Sergeant Chris Clark  
23          with the Virginia State Police who can address  
24          your questions on the move-over law.

25          Also with me is Dan Leeseey, our

1 director of transportation, who can address  
2 other questions you may have on our regional  
3 priority projects.

4 In closing, on behalf of the Richmond  
5 Area MPO, thank you for considering our  
6 requests.

7 MR. MCCARTHY: Mr. Henson, thank you  
8 very much.

9 We'd like to call Gary Skinner.  
10 Mr. Skinner, welcome.

11 MR. SKINNER: Sir, thank you very much.  
12 We appreciate on behalf of Spotsylvania County  
13 giving us this time to speak to you. And  
14 we're here tonight also to say thank you and  
15 show some appreciation with the money that you  
16 have given us so far and what we've done.

17 I'd like to go over that, but first  
18 what I'd like to do is when we first started  
19 this we had the understanding that if you want  
20 to work with CTB that you should have regional  
21 solutions, in other words, to create funding  
22 mechanisms and also partnerships with public  
23 and private partnerships.

24 And I'm here to tell you the latest  
25 that we have done that we think is very

1 important is in our toll road authority that  
2 we just passed at our last board meeting. We  
3 have ample support with it. We have the City  
4 of Fredericksburg support with it. Obviously,  
5 Spotsylvania supports it. And we've been  
6 working with VDOT and the Federal Highway  
7 Authority to make this happen in the future.  
8 So we are taking that.

9 We also would like to bring to your  
10 attention that on creative funding mechanisms,  
11 you know that we're going to open HCA Hospital  
12 here very shortly, on the 24th, I believe.

13 But that was very, very important to us  
14 because that bridge was almost mandated before  
15 HCA would have opened before that bridge  
16 there, and it was a problem at that time for  
17 large companies getting fundings for the bank.  
18 So through our own GO Bonds, we have a revenue  
19 stream now that we actually were able to get  
20 that bridge built, and we have now the revenue  
21 coming back to us from the developer.

22 So we are -- I think we are very  
23 proactive, and I think we're listening to what  
24 everybody is telling us to do, which makes the  
25 money -- for sure, it's a positive thing for

1 us.

2 Just in appreciation in what we've done  
3 with the money that you've already given us,  
4 and we do appreciate it very much, we  
5 obviously have the 208 Phase 1 completion,  
6 which greatly improves safety in the  
7 historical Spotsylvania courthouse area and  
8 improves safety and mobility for the western  
9 portion of the county and the many motorists  
10 that enjoy Lake Anna and the State's park  
11 there.

12 We also have received funding for the  
13 208 Phase 2 project, completing the safety  
14 project that was fully funded for construction  
15 over a decade ago.

16 And of course we've got the Route 3  
17 stimulus project funding and conference for  
18 the county to administer that project.

19 Two reasons for the last two is they  
20 were shovel ready, and we're just waiting to  
21 get the funds, so I'm sure that's one of the  
22 reasons we had it.

23 We've also received money for  
24 enhancement projects. The courthouse  
25 sidewalk, Phase 1 completed and Phase 2

1 funded. This will connect our historical  
2 courthouse to the Confederate Cemetery that we  
3 have located down there.

4 This year was a first for us because we  
5 did join VRE, and joining VRE and our station  
6 will be served by the new Jackson Gateway  
7 interchange, hopefully.

8 We intend to also locate a commuter  
9 parking lot next to the VRE station, and the  
10 County is paying for the site study and then  
11 prepared to go right into the environmental  
12 assessment. We actually got the first phase  
13 back today, the study for our sites that we  
14 would like to put the VRE station, and now  
15 we're ready to go into the VEMA.

16 As far as partnershiping with the  
17 public, we have many, many -- and I'd like to  
18 go through just a few of them.

19 The County is handling several small  
20 projects using the Public-Private  
21 Transportation Act. The design-build process,  
22 a hundred percent County funding for that.

23 The fast-track Oakland station is  
24 completed. Harrison, Kingswood, Eau Claire.  
25 I'm just naming some of the roads where this

1 money is going into. Route 17, that's the one  
2 at ChurchSignal. The Gordon Road and Toolpegs  
3 and demolition. Chancellor Gordon turning  
4 lanes and new traffic signal. The  
5 right-of-way hearing completion.

6 Monogram (ph). This is my district,  
7 and I'm very happy with it because right now  
8 we have a backup of almost three quarters of a  
9 mile sometimes, meaning people that live in  
10 Lee Hill North cannot get out of their  
11 community sometimes. And what that does is  
12 the patience of the driver is lessened, and we  
13 have accidents because people are trying to  
14 get out, make a sharp left turn, and cars seem  
15 to speed up as they come around the turn.

16 Smith Station, Piedmont, Massaponax  
17 Strip Road improvement is two lanes. These  
18 are all selected from the County's  
19 high-accident location list.

20 In closing, folks, the Commonwealth  
21 Transportation Board has been most responsive  
22 to our priorities as evidenced by the above  
23 accomplishments. Tonight, I'm here to ask for  
24 the continued support for our Harrison  
25 Road/US-1 intersection project. This is our

1 top accident location in the county, and it's  
2 our number-one project for the secondary road  
3 six-year plan and for FAMPO federal funding.

4 With 21,000 vehicles per day and 97  
5 crashes between 2004 and 2008, we are prepared  
6 to move forward using our BPTA comprehensive  
7 agreement and 3.7 million of currently  
8 available funding to advance into the  
9 engineering, environmental, and right-of-way  
10 acquisition phase.

11 The existing level of service is "C" in  
12 the morning and "D" in the afternoon. Once  
13 the project is completed, the level of service  
14 will be "C" in the morning, but in the  
15 afternoon it will come to "C." The concept  
16 design was selected through an extensive  
17 public outreach process completed in 2007.

18 And once again, on behalf of  
19 Spotsylvania County, we want to thank you for  
20 supporting us in the past years. I think  
21 we've taken that money and put it to good use,  
22 and we await any help that we can get from the  
23 CTB. Thank you very much.

24 MR. CONNAUGHTON: Mr. Skinner, thank  
25 you very much.

1 MR. SKINNER: Thank you, sir.

2 MR. CONNAUGHTON: The next speaker is  
3 Joe Vidunas. I do want to just take a moment  
4 and apologize for running late because of a  
5 meeting I was in.

6 MR. VIDUNAS: Good evening. My name is  
7 Joe Vidunas. I'm here representing Hanover  
8 County.

9 It is my pleasure to be able to address  
10 you this evening. Ms. Hawthorne is passing  
11 around a copy of the resolution that was  
12 adopted by our board in March, which affirms  
13 the County's top priority projects on the  
14 primary and interstate system.

15 These priorities have not changed in  
16 nearly a decade. The biggest change has been  
17 the elimination or the removal of Pouncy Tract  
18 Road, which was our Number 4 priority. That's  
19 been taken off the list because it's presently  
20 under construction.

21 So what I'd like to do real briefly is  
22 just run down our top three priorities. They  
23 should probably be familiar to most of you.

24 First on the list is the I-95/Lewistown  
25 Bridge replacement project. That also happens

1 to be the MPO's Number 5 overall regional  
2 priority project.

3 I'm pleased to say that this project is  
4 advancing, partly due to the efforts of  
5 Mr. Hawthorne in allowing the engineering --  
6 the preliminary engineering to begin.

7 Last fall, we were able to develop a  
8 very realistic scope, schedule, and cost  
9 estimate for the project. I think, as a  
10 result of that effort, CTB stepped up and  
11 provided some significant funding in the plan  
12 last year, and just last week the MPO came  
13 through with an additional 3.5 -- or 3.25  
14 million, rather, to fully fund that project.

15 So we now have our Number 1 priority  
16 fully funded in the plan. A survey is  
17 underway, and we have a realistic target, I  
18 believe, in June of 2014. Good news.

19 Our second priority on the list is the  
20 Route 360 corridor, which happens to be the  
21 MPO's Number 1 -- or actually it's tied among  
22 the Number 1 priority in the region.

23 This, too, has a fairly good news story  
24 to it. Through some reconsolidation of the  
25 various phases, we have fully funded the first

1 phase of what I will call the corridor  
2 improvement beginning at 295. The project is  
3 currently in the utility coordination phase,  
4 and we look to be beginning by the first of  
5 next year. It has an advertisement date of  
6 Spring of 2014.

7           However, the next phase of the 360  
8 improvements would include the intersection  
9 with Lee Davis Road. This is still a very  
10 critical component in the corridor. Just last  
11 week the MPO again came through with about 5.5  
12 million. We would like to work with VDOT  
13 staff on rescoping the project to develop a  
14 realistic project that we could fund through  
15 the help of the CTB and continue these  
16 important improvements.

17           And then lastly, the 33 corridor is the  
18 Number 3 priority. This project is in the  
19 early development phases. VDOT is advancing  
20 the project through the public involvement  
21 phase. At that point, we would look to break  
22 out -- break the project into phases,  
23 beginning with the Ashland Road intersection.  
24 And again, the MPO placed about 1.5 million  
25 towards that improvement in the recent update

1 to their funding.

2 Now, that covers our primary interstate  
3 priorities, and I know time is limited, but if  
4 I could have a couple more minutes, I just  
5 want to share with you some recent  
6 accomplishments that are taking place in  
7 Hanover.

8 Just -- currently, we have four  
9 projects, including the 2.7 miles from Pouncy  
10 Tract Road currently under construction.

11 I will remind everyone that Pouncy  
12 Tract Road, I had to go back and check, PE was  
13 also authorized on that project back in 1989.  
14 1989. But it is under construction now, and  
15 it came in well under the engineer's estimate,  
16 so there was a savings to be had there.

17 We had four projects under  
18 construction. Included in that group are 20  
19 unpaved road projects.

20 In addition to that, we have one  
21 project that is currently out to bid, the  
22 Lewistown widening, which is a very high  
23 priority for the county. And then by the end  
24 of the summer we expect to have three more  
25 projects out to bid. Together, collectively,

1 that represents about \$29 million in roadway  
2 improvements that we could be underway or soon  
3 to be underway by the end of the year, which  
4 is, I think, a pretty impressive statistic.

5 If I can just say one more thing about  
6 the unpaved road projects, because I think  
7 this is -- this is very significant. With the  
8 completion of the 20 unpaved road projects by  
9 the end of the summer, we will essentially  
10 have paved all the routed roads in the county,  
11 save several miles which either aren't  
12 eligible or the public just wasn't interested.

13 We are doing this not using formula  
14 unpaid funds. They've been removed from the  
15 plan, but we were able to take balances on  
16 completed projects and put those towards these  
17 projects.

18 As you can imagine, this has been very  
19 well received by the public. Many of the  
20 citizens thought they would never see their  
21 road paved. We were able to do 20 roads in  
22 one swoop. We're administering the projects.  
23 Hiensley (ph) is providing an improved driving  
24 service, less wear and tear on vehicles, no  
25 dust, no mud, all those things. But there's



1           you. And again, I appreciate your support and  
2           your consideration.

3                     MR. CONNAUGHTON: Thank you very much.

4           We appreciate you being here.

5                     Sherman Vaughan.

6                     MR. VAUGHAN: Good afternoon, Mr.

7           Chairman and members of the board. Nottoway

8           County. And I brought my chairman with me.

9           Steve, please stand.

10                    We have only four items that we want to

11           talk to you about. And the ongoing safety of

12           Route 307, we ask for continuing improvements

13           on Route 307 from the intersections of 460 in

14           Prince Edward County to 360 in Amelia County.

15           The majority of 307 is in Nottoway County.

16                    The problem with 307 is we don't have

17           shoulders there, and the truckers have made it

18           a truck route because it saves about seven

19           miles off of 360 or even 460. We feel like

20           this road really needs to be improved.

21                    The second item we have is the -- and

22           this is a safety issue because 360 merges with

23           460 in Burkeville, and when they merge, some

24           people like to turn into the town on Plum

25           Street into Burkeville, and the traffic is

1 coming down the highway at 50, 60 miles an  
2 hour, and the people who are trying to turn  
3 really have to be very careful. We'll have  
4 numerous accidents at that intersection.

5 The third item that we have is on Route  
6 46, and I have a map on the second page.  
7 Route 46 has a real sharp curve. You almost  
8 have to -- it's a 55-mile-an-hour zone there,  
9 but you almost have to come to a speed of  
10 about 30 miles an hour to negotiate the curve,  
11 and it's only one mile. If we could get that  
12 one mile straightened out there, then 46 would  
13 be a quick road. And now it's becoming a  
14 truck lane because the truckers are coming off  
15 of 85 through Blackstone onto 460/360.

16 And Number 4, when I was writing this,  
17 I said entrance ramp, but I found out that  
18 it's an acceleration ramp. Business 460 --  
19 460 runs into 60 -- 460, regular highway  
20 interstate. And we need an acceleration ramp.  
21 Rather than the cars coming to a complete  
22 stop, if they could accelerate on this ramp  
23 and keep moving, that would really help us in  
24 that area.

25 We hope that you will take a close

1 look. I don't think the ramp would cost that  
2 much, if you all would take a look at that and  
3 deal with that ramp.

4 That's all I have. Thank you very  
5 much.

6 MR. CONNAUGHTON: Mr. Vaughan, thank  
7 you very much. I appreciate your chairman  
8 being here, as well.

9 Fritz Alderman.

10 MR. ALDERMAN: Good evening. Thank you  
11 for having me here. My name is Fritz  
12 Alderman. I'm with the County of Culpeper,  
13 and I would just thank you very much for the  
14 support that you've given us on our 229  
15 project that we've been scrounging around for  
16 many years trying to find the money to start  
17 this project.

18 It's currently in design right now. We  
19 changed that design from a standard  
20 intersection to a roundabout, and that brings  
21 me to what I'm going to grovel about today for  
22 a little bit.

23 We're going to put this roundabout in  
24 on Route 229. And north of town on 229, they  
25 just finished up a project where they widened

1           229 around the high school. We have an  
2           hour-glass effect where we have good moving  
3           traffic north of town, and where this  
4           roundabout is going to be, I'm sure that it's  
5           going to be highly efficient. Otherwise, we  
6           wouldn't recommend a piece of roadway in  
7           between the two projects, which is our  
8           UPC16640.

9                   And we would like funding on that put  
10           back on it. Unfortunately, with the economic  
11           situation, we had to lose some of our funding.  
12           We'd really appreciate to get some of that  
13           back.

14                   I'd also like to thank you for the  
15           revenue sharing, and we hope that the State  
16           will continue that program. It's been very  
17           beneficial. We were able to put \$3 million  
18           towards the roundabout project with revenue  
19           sharing and would hope that we can do that  
20           with the Phase 2 of that same project.

21                   Again, I'd just like to thank you very  
22           much, and hopefully we can get some money back  
23           on Phase 2. Thank you.

24                   MR. CONNAUGHTON: Thank you. Paul  
25           Milde.

1           MR. MILDE: Good evening. Thank you  
2           for having me here today. I think I gave  
3           everyone who -- or almost all of you a packet  
4           or a pamphlet where I put my remarks and the  
5           maps. And several of you know me, serve on  
6           the local MPO in the Fredericksburg region.

7           My name is Paul Milde, and I serve as  
8           vice chairman of the Stafford County Board of  
9           Supervisors. I'm not here representing VRE,  
10          but I also serve as the chairman of the  
11          Operations Board for the Virginia Railway  
12          Express.

13          On behalf of my colleagues and the  
14          board, I appreciate the opportunity to provide  
15          input for VDOT's proposed fiscal 2011 through  
16          2016, the six-year improvement plan.

17          Transportation is the Number 1 safety  
18          and quality of life issue for the residents  
19          and the governing body in Stafford. My  
20          colleagues and I understand very well the  
21          current fiscal environment in which VDOT and  
22          the CTB are constructing their road  
23          improvement blueprint for the next six years.

24          Just as those counties have had to  
25          refocus priorities and tighten belts in the

1 face of declining revenues, the Commonwealth  
2 has taken some learned significant actions.  
3 Last year, the CTB made a difficult but  
4 courageous decision to maintain priority  
5 projects in a six-year program.

6 Let me be clear. In Stafford, our  
7 roadways are failing. Our modeling shows that  
8 our roadways will continue to deteriorate  
9 significantly without necessary resources.  
10 This is true, I know, in many other localities  
11 and regions across the Commonwealth.

12 Unfortunately, in Stafford, we have  
13 experienced a number of fatalities on our  
14 secondary roadways in recent years. The  
15 community responded by forming a citizens task  
16 group and identifying the most dangerous spots  
17 on our roads.

18 As a part of our further efforts to  
19 step up to the plate and be a partner with  
20 VDOT in addressing these failures, Stafford  
21 voters approved a \$70 million general  
22 obligation bond to pay for selected safety and  
23 capacity improvements. Not one over the  
24 other.

25 Other priority road projects for which

1           our bond and funding was approved by voters  
2           also are projects that you have included in  
3           your six-year plan, and they have not changed  
4           since last year.

5                     And those are: The Falmouth  
6           intersection at Route 1 and 17, which is just  
7           on the edge of Fredericksburg in Stafford  
8           County; the I-95 Courthouse Road or 630  
9           interchange project, which has been a  
10          longstanding priority in Stafford and also  
11          serves the hospital we already have open for  
12          over a year. It doesn't have a good access  
13          from 95.

14                    It also serves a couple of our UDAs  
15          that were put into our comprehensive land use  
16          plan in an attempt to work with the  
17          Commonwealth, and we understand how these  
18          things -- or we think we understand how some  
19          of our transportation woes have come about.

20                    Also, improvements to Route 17 which  
21          runs east to west from Warrenton through  
22          Stafford, and people typically get off at 95  
23          and that's just a -- that's a mess.

24                    And also Route 1 improvements. Route 1  
25          is becoming an alternate for 95. People

1 leaving Spotsylvania County and Fredericksburg  
2 commuting north, a lot of them will take Route  
3 1. So it becomes a regional problem.

4 Also, we're asking to -- the roadways  
5 leading into the Marine Corps base Quantico,  
6 as a result of the BRAC (ph) actions, we will  
7 have a significant number of commuters, 3,000  
8 plus, in the next -- supposedly by the end of  
9 next year or a little bit over a year.

10 The Federal Government has mandated  
11 that those jobs be in place, so we're trying  
12 to prepare for that, but as you know, the  
13 Federal Government is only fixing some of  
14 those problems. It's left us with quite a lot  
15 of others that we're not sure how we're going  
16 to handle, but we're doing what we can.

17 In order to be successful and continue  
18 to be a successful partner and to leverage our  
19 bond dollars, we need you, please, to maintain  
20 the Courthouse Road interchange, improvements  
21 to US-1, US-17, and Falmouth intersection as  
22 priority projects in the six-year program.

23 I'll also mention that just recently  
24 our Board of Supervisors, just two days ago,  
25 voted on moving forward county-wide impact

1 fees on all residential development. If we go  
2 forward with this, and right now the low is  
3 there, you can understand the political  
4 barriers sometimes that arise. We might be  
5 the first county that's done that.

6 We also, of course, are looking -- our  
7 MPO has been working with Spotsylvania County  
8 in Fredericksburg on this tolling authority,  
9 and we have every intention, at least now, of  
10 also including a tolling authority to try to  
11 solve some of our problems.

12 So we are trying to do what we can on  
13 the County level to raise funds and of course  
14 borrowing money off of that bond issue that  
15 passed to try to partner with you guys, but we  
16 can't do it without your help.

17 So I appreciate everything you have  
18 done for us. I wish I could tout some of the  
19 projects. We're happy that our regional  
20 partner was able to get some projects  
21 approved, use some stimulus funds, and we're  
22 hopeful that some of our road -- our  
23 priorities might be funded also. So thank you  
24 very much.

25 MR. CONNAUGHTON: Mr. Milde, thank you

1 very much. We appreciate it.

2 DR. MYERS: Good evening, Mr. Chairman  
3 and the members of the Commonwealth  
4 Transportation Board. My name is Clara Myers,  
5 and I'm a regional project planner for the  
6 Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission.  
7 I'm here to voice comments on behalf of the  
8 Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission  
9 and Matthews County.

10 First, the Middle Peninsula Planning  
11 District Commission would like to thank the  
12 Commonwealth Transportation Board for its many  
13 years of support of our transportation demand  
14 and needs in Middle Peninsula ride share  
15 program.

16 The Middle Peninsula has the highest  
17 percentage of commuters than any of the  
18 regions traveling to work in the state.  
19 Almost one in two commuters travels to other  
20 regions to earn their paychecks.

21 With almost no public transportation in  
22 the region, our program provides one of the  
23 few options for single occupancy vehicles for  
24 these commuters and is often the last resort  
25 for those who have no personal transportation

1 options.

2 The MPPDC has just completed a  
3 long-range PDM plan to guide us going forward.  
4 The plan will be considered by our board for  
5 approval later on this month. Continued  
6 support from the Commonwealth Transportation  
7 Board is crucial to this plan. Again, we  
8 thank you for your past support and encourage  
9 you to continue to fund that program.

10 Now, for Matthews County, the following  
11 comments were unanimously approved by the  
12 Matthews County Board of Supervisors on April  
13 27th, 2010, for inclusion in the record of  
14 this public hearing.

15 The Board of Supervisors greatly  
16 appreciates the opportunity that is afforded  
17 their county to share transportation needs  
18 with you. They have broken up their comments  
19 and requests into three categories for your  
20 consideration. Their current projects are  
21 safety improvements and enhancement projects.

22 Current projects include the  
23 intersection at Route 14 and 198 at Wards  
24 Corner. Substantial funding has already been  
25 programmed for reconstruction at this

1 dangerous intersection. Please include any  
2 additional funding necessary to begin  
3 construction of this improvement.

4 Reconstruction of Route 14, which is  
5 the Main Street area in Matthews Courthouse.  
6 \$500,000 has been budgeted previously to  
7 provide for engineering design to develop  
8 plans to minimize the flooding of the roadway  
9 in the Matthews cap?)Business District.  
10 Please consider including additional funding  
11 to provide for necessary right-of-way  
12 acquisition and actual construction for the  
13 project.

14 This project is of utmost importance to  
15 the economic viability of the Matthews  
16 community as regular flooding on Main Street  
17 has made business ownership and expansion  
18 extremely difficult.

19 Under the State improvements category,  
20 intersection improvements at Route 14 and 3,  
21 VDOT has begun some safety improvements at  
22 that dangerous intersection.

23 The construction of a turn lane on  
24 Route 3 on to Route 14 west would greatly  
25 improve vehicular safety at that intersection.

1           Construction of turn lanes on Route 198  
2           at the intersection with Route 626, which is  
3           Hallieford Road. Hallieford Road serves one  
4           of the most densely populated sections of  
5           Matthews County. Turn lanes at that location  
6           would allow traffic to move more freely along  
7           Route 198 and would greatly enhance safety.

8           Construction of left turn lanes on  
9           Route 14 and 198 at the park-and-ride  
10          facility. The parking lot includes 53 spaces  
11          that are set aside for commuters. It is  
12          located along the busiest section of the  
13          roadway in Matthews County, so it needs a turn  
14          lane.

15          Construction of a left turn lane on  
16          Route 14 at the entrance to the Matthews  
17          County Waste Convenience Transfer Station, the  
18          public facility attracts an average of 500  
19          vehicles per day, along with numerous trucks  
20          that are used to haul waste from the site.  
21          It's a primary public service location where  
22          traffic on Route 14 is slow and on a regular  
23          basis. Construction of a left turn on Route  
24          14 would greatly enhance safety for the  
25          traveling public.

1           And the last safety project, the  
2           intersection of Route 3 and 198 in the Dixie  
3           area. The Board of Supervisors has asked VDOT  
4           several times to install a traffic signal at  
5           that intersection. VDOT engineers originally  
6           approved that improvement and later would  
7           approve their verbal.

8           This intersection is dangerous and has  
9           been the site of numerous accidents in the  
10          past few years. The board requests that VDOT  
11          reconsider its request for a traffic signal.

12          And lastly, on these enhancement  
13          projects, the Newpoint Comfort Lighthouse  
14          project, Matthews County was fortunate to  
15          receive partial funding to the enhancement  
16          grant program for Phase 1 of the Newpoint  
17          Comfort Lighthouse preservation project. The  
18          Board of Supervisors request your support for  
19          the current application for this project,  
20          which will put them closer to their goal of  
21          preserving the 1805 historic landmark.

22          And lastly, the Matthews Courthouse  
23          historic gateway. VDOT has awarded several  
24          enhancement grants to the County for this  
25          important project. The project will provide

1 for pedestrian and vehicular safety  
2 improvements on the Main Street in the  
3 Courthouse District. The Board of Supervisors  
4 requests support for continued funding of  
5 their enhancement grant applications for that  
6 purpose.

7 The Board of Supervisors in Matthews  
8 County greatly appreciates the service  
9 provided by VDOT and its many dedicated  
10 employees.

11 On behalf of the Middle Peninsula  
12 Planning District Commission and the  
13 localities that we represent, I thank you very  
14 much for your time and attention. Thank you.

15 MR. CONNAUGHTON: Ms. Myers, thank you  
16 very much. I appreciate you being here.

17 That's all that we have as folks who  
18 have signed up. Is there anyone who has not  
19 signed up who wants to speak?

20 If that's the case, at this point --  
21 well, before we do, I don't know if any of our  
22 CTB members had anything to add. Anyone?

23 Well, listen, thank you very much for  
24 being out here this evening. Our next hearing  
25 will be next Wednesday up in Fairfax of the

1 Northern Virginia District at the Fairfax City  
2 Hall starting at 6:00. Thank you all for  
3 being here. We appreciate your participation.

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5 (Hearing adjourned at 6:42 p.m.)

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1           COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AT LARGE, to wit:

2           I, Rhonda D. Tuck, RPR, CRR, Notary Public  
3           in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia at Large,  
4           and whose commission expires May 31, 2012, do  
5           certify that I was the court reporter at the  
6           aforementioned proceedings and that the foregoing is  
7           a true, correct, and full transcript of the  
8           proceedings herein.

9           I further certify that I am neither  
10          related to nor associated with any counsel or party  
11          to this proceeding, nor otherwise interested in the  
12          event thereof.

13          Given under my hand and notarial seal at  
14          Charlottesville, Virginia, this 28th day of May  
15          2010.

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19

20           Rhonda D. Tuck, RPR, CRR, Notary Public

21           Commonwealth of Virginia at Large

22                           Notary No. 224847

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